

This result was occasioned by attention to dryness (for he rarely permitted washing between decks), frequent ventilation of hammocks and clothes, circulation below of fresh air, &c. &c.,” *Memoirs*, p. 266.

It must be remembered, however, that Lord Collingwood was cruizing in a temperate, healthy region, and not upon Indian, Mexican, or African seas; still, the citations above must be admitted to be most remarkable, and highly worthy of attention. If equal success cannot be obtained by the same means, we might at least hope for a desirable approximation.

ART. XII.—*Case of Congenital Deficiency of the Superior Portion of the Cranium.* By JOHN W. H. TRUGIEN, M. D., of Portsmouth, Va.

H——, aged forty-six, native of Ireland, County of Mayo, married, and the mother of twelve children, all of whom were well formed and perfect, after a gestation of nine months, during which nothing unusual occurred, was seized with labour-pains, at 1 o'clock P. M., June 5th, 1849, and at 4½ o'clock P. M., was delivered of a fine (with the exception of the particular deformity, of which mention is about to be made) female child. As is customary, in our southern country generally, a woman was called upon to preside at the birth of the child; and, consequently, nothing could be ascertained very satisfactory of the phenomena of labour—the relative duration of the different stages, &c. On examining, with the view of detecting the presentation, the strange feeling communicated to the finger of the midwife by the foetal head, surprising and alarming her, caused her to send for a physician. The second stage of labour was fully commenced when he arrived; the os uteri fully dilated, the head presenting (position not stated), and the arm protruding by the side of the face. The bag of waters was now ruptured by the finger of the accoucheur, and the arm pushed back into uterus, when the head descended regularly, and the child was delivered in due time. It was then found, on examination, that the calvaria or vault of the cranium was entirely deficient, presenting the appearance of having been cleanly sliced off with a knife, on a level with the temporal ridge all around, commencing in front at the superciliary ridges of the frontal bone, extending thence through the parietal and occipital behind, down to the level of the superior semi-circular ridge. The space thus left deficient, was covered by a transparent membrane, through which the brain could be distinctly seen, of a bright scarlet colour. It was deeply interesting to witness the movements of the brain, which were synchronous with those of the respiratory apparatus; the cranial mass rising during expiration, and sinking during inspiration. The parts of the brain exposed to view, were the anterior, middle, and posterior lobes. The spinal

column was perfect throughout, and, as before intimated, with the exception of this deformity, the child was perfect in all its parts. Pulse about 130 in the minute. Aspect of the face very singular and expressive, resembling more that of an old woman than a new-born babe. The eyes looked unusually large; the pupils dilated, and the eyelids constantly closed. The child cries, but does not nurse, refusing the nipple when applied to the mouth. Owing to the ignorance of the parents and friends, and their superstitious notions, such an examination as we could have wished, was not to be had. Some measurements of the body and head were, however, made, and are as follows:—

	Inches.
Length of child, from vertex to heel	15½
Circumference of head	8½
Fronto-mental diameter	3½
Length of opening in the cranium	3
Breadth	2

The child lived forty-eight hours only after birth. No post-mortem examination was allowed.

ART. XIII.—*Case of Monstrosity. Deficiency of posterior parts of Cranium and Spinal Column—Deformity of Genital Organs, &c.* By J. E. BREED, M. D., of Smithville, Jefferson County, New York. (With three wood cuts.)

THE enclosed sketches were taken from a monster, the product of a third pregnancy; and thinking the case a novel one, I send it to you for publication. At the full time, preparatory pains commenced at 2 P. M., and at 11 P. M. the waters were discharged, without much apparent hastening or advance of the child. Upon examination, no child could be felt; but, instead, a firm bag containing fluid, and which for a time was thought to be the natural bag covering the child. The next pain, after the examination, was followed by a gush of fluid, which deluged the couch, and ran down along the floor. The child advanced immediately, and labour ended at a quarter past 11 P. M. I had made a minute examination of the organs of generation, of the sac, brain, and spinal cord, when I was obliged to leave, and therefore hastily examined the viscera of the abdomen and chest; this will account for any want of minuteness in the sketch or description. The posterior part of the cranium and spinal column was hid by a loose sac, formed by the membranes covering the brain and cord, and the external integuments. The sac had an extensive laceration on the left side, nearly on the level of the ear, as shown in the